THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Local Purchase System for CGHS Unani Dispensaries

2296. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no local purchase system in CGHS Unani Dispensaries, whereas this facility is available in other system of dispensaries;

(b) if so, whether any# procedure to provide the non-available Unani medicines to the CGHS beneficiaries exists;

(c) if not, the reasons for this disparity; and

(d) by when the local purchase system/procedure to supply non- available Unani medicines is likely to be provided in CGHS Unani Dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Out of 5 cities having Unani facilities under CGHS, the system of local purchase of Unani medicines is prevalent in CGHS, Lucknow and CGHS Hyderabad only.

(b) and (c) Suitable alternative medicines are prescribed and provided to the beneficiaries from the available stock of medicines in the Unani dispensaries/ Units.

(d) An effort was made earlier to appoint local chemists for supplying Unani medicines to the CGHS but the same could not materialise due to poor response from the chemists.

CGHS Unani Dispensary in Kolkata

2297. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the date of opening of CGHS Unani Dispensary at Kolkata;

(b) the sanctioned strength of medical and para-medical staff and the staff actually posted at the said Dispensary;

(c) whether he is aware that SMO posted there is compelled to perform the duties of Pharmacist and clerk in the absence of non- posting of such staff members by CGHS administration;

(d) to what extent this is justified; and

(c) how is dispensary is functioning without a pharmacist/ storekeeper/ clerk from the date of opening of the dispensary till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The CGHS Unani dispensary in Kolkata was opened in 1991.

(b) Two Unani Physicians, one Pharmacist-cum-clerk (Unani) and one Nursing Attendant arc sanctioned for the Unani Dispensary.

Only one Unani Physician has been working at present as the other post of Unani Physician has been abolished with effect from 1.7.1999 However, the post of Pharmacist-cum-clerk is lying vacant since the inception of the Unani dispensary in 1991 and the revival of the post is to be taken up with the Ministry of Finance.

(c) In the absence of non-posting of Pharmacist-cum-clerk, the Unani Physician is doing the work related with the Unani Dispensary and one Peon from another dispensary has been provided to assist the Unani Physician.

(d) and (c) In view of (b) and (c) above, the Unani Physician is also looking after the work of Pharmacist-cum-clerk in the interest of the beneficiaries of the Unani dispensary with the assistance of a Peon.

New Herbal Drug for Asthma

2298. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new herbal drug for Asthma has been launched in market;

(b) if so, the reaction of patients of Asthma at large;

(c) whether Government have ensured its availability at cheap price throughout the country; and

(d) the other details in this regard?